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# NEW PERSPECTIVES

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Grasslands

1982

1890 CONSERVATION  
THE WISE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

1905 PINCHOT'S PHILOSOPHY OF SERVICE  
THE GREATEST GOOD OF THE  
GREATEST NUMBER IN THE LONG RUN

1960 MULTIPLE USE  
FOR THE SUSTAINED YIELD OF NATURAL RESOURCES

1990 NEW PERSPECTIVES  
SEEKING HARMONY BETWEEN PEOPLE AND LAND





The USDA Forest Service is responding to the wishes of Americans to practice conservation and multiple use with increased environmental sensitivity. Across the Nation, recent projects on national forests and grasslands demonstrate new, more sensitive ways to manage land and resources.

We are creating a renewed vision for conservation, implementing a "New Perspectives" philosophy that emphasizes the application of ecological principles and current research. We're bringing new ideas, new information, and new working relationships into the business of caring for the land and serving people.

It's time for a new kind of environmentalism, driven by the knowledge that a sound ecology and a strong economy can coexist.

President George Bush  
(1990)



# What's Happening in Your Part of the Country?

Projects implementing the New Perspectives ideas are happening all across the country—from restoring native prairies, to forming stronger partnerships between industry and conservation groups, to researching an array of timber harvest methods.

## In Illinois

*How does restoring a prairie improve biological diversity?*

The Shawnee National Forest uses prescribed fire to restore native prairies in areas of brush and tree encroachment. Since the project began, 131 native plant species and 75 kinds of butterflies have been identified. Partnerships with other organizations—14 different groups, agencies, individuals, and a university—have been a key component in the restoration effort.

## In Oregon

*What is the role of old-growth forests in regional ecosystems?*

New timber harvest methods are being studied on the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest and the Willamette and Siskiyou National Forests. The methods being tested are intended to create forested landscapes with greater diversity than past practices. These studies will give us more information about the role of old-growth compared to second-growth in forested landscapes.

## In Alaska

*What approach will help the public accept gravel extraction in a high-use recreation area with a major tourist attraction?*

Cooperation between local users of glacier-created gravel and the Chugach National Forest is developing new fish habitat near the Begich, Boggs Visitor Center at Portage Glacier. With their equipment, gravel users shape streams and ponds and bring in soil and vegetation to add nutrients for fish habitat development. Visitors can watch the activity, which provides raw material for local construction while increasing recreation and scenic values in the valley.



## **In Arkansas and Oklahoma**

*How can we determine the best mix of hardwoods and conifers to benefit biological diversity and meet social needs?*

On the Ouachita National Forest, research scientists and land managers are conducting a series of experiments in managing forests to sustain natural beauty, conserve biological diversity, and maintain management options for the future. They are also studying people's reaction to the effects of different timber harvest methods.

## **In Michigan**

*How does ecological classification and inventory provide a basis for forest planning and ecosystem management?*

Grand Island, part of the Hiawatha National Forest, which lies north of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in Lake Superior, was recently designated a national recreation area. An ecological classification and inventory was undertaken to provide integrated information on ecosystem components for use in developing a management plan. The data gathered in the inventory are being used to evaluate the effects of proposed management alternatives.

## **In Montana**

*How can social and political conflicts be resolved and habitat quality be improved to help ensure the recovery of the grizzly bear population?*

A partnership between the Lewis and Clark National Forest and the timber industry resulted in planned burning to improve 1,000 acres of habitat for grizzly bears. Design of the projects was based on the latest wildlife and ecological research. Outreach and education efforts led to strong collaboration with leaders in the field of outdoor education.

## **New Perspectives Themes**

- Stewardship
- Partnerships
- Cooperation
- Flexibility
- Pathways for dealing with issues





## What is the New Perspectives Vision?

- Stewardship of the land to sustain natural communities and provide opportunities for people to enjoy public lands and resources.
- Relationships that involve people in public land management decisions to help meet their needs and interests.
- Cooperation between Forest Service land managers and scientists to integrate research and resource management.
- Flexibility in research, thinking, and management practices so that resource managers and scientists use their creativity and experience to explore, develop, and demonstrate new technology and good land stewardship.
- Applications that address critical natural resource issues such as biological diversity, range conditions, timber harvest methods, oil and gas leasing, and old-growth forests.

Today's New Perspectives will soon become traditions; newer views of land and resources will appear. We will depart and new conservationists will take our place. The constantly evolving work of land stewardship—sustaining ecosystems and economies, forming strong partnerships, and making flexible responses to natural change and human needs—will go on.



New Perspectives projects are happening on national forests and grasslands across America.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION about New Perspectives, please contact your nearest Forest Service office or:



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